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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Poland

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

SUBJECT Conditions in Dzierzonow/Food Prices/Clothing and Shoe Supplies/Jewish Colony of Dzierzonow

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Food Supplies

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1. "In Dzierzonow, at the beginning of this year [REDACTED], the supplies of food were quite ample, [REDACTED] everywhere else in Poland. However, the prices are very high. [REDACTED] the prices of meat were: for 1 kg of beef - 18-26 zlotys, for 1 kg of pork - 30 zlotys. Jews paid 23 zlotys for 1 kg of kosher meat.

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2. "Also this year [REDACTED], oranges imported from Israel appeared on the market. This became another racket of the government. Poland had purchased 150,000 cases of oranges, each case weighing about 40 kgs. The price CIF Haifa was \$ 1.13.0, i. e. one kilogram costs less than a shilling. In Poland oranges were sold at the price of 40 zlotys for 1 kg which is the equivalent to \$ 3.10.0.

Clothing and Shoes

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3. "The supplies of clothing and footwear were very poor; especially of footwear. On rare occasions, the state shop in Dzierzonow received a small allocation of shoes of Hungarian production which in comparison with the poorly made Polish shoes available in Dzierzonow were excellent. These Hungarian shoes were not sold to the public but to the local dignitaries and influential people. [REDACTED] one pair for 650 zlotys; the official price was 575, but the shop's manager pocketed the difference as his commission for 'having obliged'.

Jewish Colony

4. "The district of Dzierzonow is inhabited by a comparatively strong Jewish colony totaling about 5,500. Most of these people are employed in various artisan cooperatives, and their earnings are on the average from 600 to 800 zlotys monthly.

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5. "Jewish social life concentrates in: a) Jewish Cultural Society, and b) Jewish Religious Congregation:

a) "The Jewish Cultural Society is run by the Communists and has little popularity among the Jews; however, some of them must frequent its meetings and events if they work in state jobs which they might lose otherwise or in factories. The Society is now carrying on a strong propaganda campaign against immigration to Israel. Its amateur drama club performs short propaganda plays presenting Israel as a wired-off concentration camp which anybody can enter but which is impossible to leave, etc. Starvation and police terror reign inside.

b) "The Jewish Religious Congregation in Dzierzonow is financed by the state (Office for Denominational Affairs). It maintains the local synagogue which however has no local rabbi, only a cantor, and employs several people including the chairman of the Congregation who is paid 1,260 zlotys a month, and two kosher butchers. The Jews are prevented from frequenting the synagogue too often and only a few are able to be there every Saturday because of the 'work discipline' regulations in factories and workshops. Even so, more people may be seen in the synagogue than ever gather at the meetings of the Jewish Cultural Society. Some time ago the Society even transferred its premises to a house opposite the synagogue, in order to be nearer the real center of the local Jewish life. The most prominent Jewish Communist in the district is the Society's chairman [fau] Wiczner."

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5-11/725.1	55M
851.1	55M
5-11/729.224	55M
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114.78	55M

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